

44831 to 44838—Continued.**44834. ISOTOMA AXILLARIS Lindl. Campanulacæ.**

An erect perennial plant, 6 to 12 inches high, which flowers the first year, appearing to be annual, but forming at length a hard rootstock. It has a few spreading branches, irregularly pinnatifid linear leaves 2 to 3 inches long, and large, bluish purple axillary flowers. It is a native of Australia, where it is now cultivated as an ornamental. (Adapted from *Bailey, Standard Cyclopædia of Horticulture, vol. 3, p. 1707.*)

44835. PERSOONIA MYRTILLOIDES Sieber. Proteacæ.

A much-branched spreading shrub about 4 feet high, with rigid, oblong-lanceolate leaves about an inch in length and axillary flowers nearly half an inch long. It is a native of the Blue Mountains in New South Wales. (Adapted from *Bentham and Mueller, Flora Australiensis, vol. 5, p. 401.*)

44836. PETROPHILA PULCHELLA (Schrad.) R. Br. Proteacæ.

An erect, shrubby plant, with alternate, much-divided threadlike leaves and a conical head of small white flowers. It is a native of Australia, where it is sometimes cultivated as an ornamental. (Adapted from *Curtis's Botanical Magazine, vol. 21, pl. 796, as Protea pulchella.*)

44837. TELOPEA SPECIOSISSIMA (J. E. Smith) R. Br. Proteacæ.

Waratah.

A stout, erect, glabrous shrub 6 to 8 feet high, with leathery, cuneate-oblong leaves 5 to 10 inches long and very handsome crimson flowers in dense heads or racemes 3 inches in diameter. The fruit is a leathery, recurved follicle 3 to 4 inches long, containing 10 to 20 seeds. It is native to New South Wales. (Adapted from *Bentham and Mueller, Flora Australiensis, vol. 5, p. 534.*)

44838. VITTADINIA TRILOBA (Gaud.) DC. Asteracæ.

(*V. australis* A. Rich.)

An herbaceous plant, either erect and apparently annual or with diffusely ascending stem from a perennial woody base, usually not more than a foot high. The leaves are entire or coarsely three lobed, and the purplish flower heads are solitary and terminal. It is a native of southern Australia and might be useful as an ornamental in borders. (Adapted from *Bailey, Queensland Flora, pt. 3, p. 811.*)

44839. CACARA EROSA (L.) Kuntze. Fabacæ.

Yam bean.

(*Pachyrhizus angulatus* Rich.)

From Mayaguez, Porto Rico. Presented by Mr. C. F. Kinman, horticulturist, Agricultural Experiment Station. Received June 8, 1917.

"*Habilla.*" A shrubby, twining, tuberous-rooted vine with trifoliolate leaves, reddish flowers in racemes up to a foot in length, and straight pods 6 to 9 inches long, containing 8 to 12 seeds. It is cultivated throughout the Tropics for the sake of the edible roots, which are prepared and eaten like potatoes or subjected to a process for extracting the starch. This starch is pure white and is said to be equal in every respect to that obtained from arrowroot. It is very palatable and is used in making custards and puddings. The powdered tubers make a very excellent flour. Although the ripe beans are poisonous, the pods are not and when young are eaten like string beans. In Florida and in the island of Mauritius this bean is used as a cover crop.

For an illustration of the yam bean as a cover crop, see Plate VIII.